



State of North Carolina Office of the Governor

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GOV. EASLEY ANNOUNCES \$600 MILLION INVESTMENT FOR PERSON COUNTY

RALEIGH – Gov. Mike Easley announced today that Dominion will construct and operate a natural gas-fired electric generating station in Person County, hiring approximately 40 people and representing an investment of \$600 million, one of the largest investments in the state's history.

"Dominion's announcement today of this \$600 million investment is great news for Person County and for North Carolina," said Easley. "North Carolina continues to attract quality business projects because of the economic foundation we have built. We welcome the company's commitment to our state's economic future and to our people."

The 1,100-megawatt facility, to be located in Person County Industrial Park in Roxboro, is expected to sell its generation on the wholesale electricity market. Approximately 400 people will initially be employed in the construction of the facility and as many as 40 highly skilled, permanent employees will be hired when the facility becomes fully operational.

Dominion, headquartered in Richmond, Va., is one of the nation's largest producers of electric power and natural gas serving four million retail customers in five states, including 110,000 in northeastern North Carolina through its Dominion/North Carolina Power subsidiary.

"Person County provides an excellent location for this facility, with access to needed supplies of gas, water and transmission capacity," said Thomas F. Farrell II, chief executive officer of Dominion Energy, Dominion's electric generation subsidiary. "By constructing the proposed facility here, we can help meet the growing need for energy and make a significant contribution to the regional economy."

The Person County facility will use specific generating turbines fueled by natural gas, a clean-burning fuel source with substantially lower emissions than similar coal-fired stations. The turbines are acknowledged by industry experts to be the cleanest, quietest turbines available.

"Dominion is an excellent company, and we are extremely pleased at the prospect of having them join our corporate community," said Glen Newsome, executive director of the Person County Economic Development Commission. "The capital investment and new job creation associated with this project are substantial and will accord significant benefit to the city, county and state of North Carolina. We look forward to continuing our relationship with Dominion and are committed to bringing this project to fruition."

Dominion will be eligible for tax credits offered by the William S. Lee Quality Jobs and Business Expansion Act, including credits for job creation, investment and worker training.

-30-